THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The problem of inadequate covered accommodation cannot be attributed entirely to the incidents of fire in ammunition/ordnance depots.The problem has been addressed and adequate measures have been taken to provide permanent storage accommodation. As a consequence of the efforts to construct storage accommodation in the last two years, the ammunition lying under tentage and canvas has been reduced from 1.5 lakh MT to 0.9 lakh MT. The work sanctioned in the financial year 2000-2001 and year 2001-2002 is expected to be completed by year 2003-2004 and year 2004-2005 respectively. This will add approximately 1.5 lakh MT of ammunition storage accommodation. With this the entire stock of ammunition lying in the open under canvas and tentage as well as some of the ammunition lying under temporary accommodation will be brought under permanent covered accommodation.

Upgrading skills of NCC cadets

1056. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds released to various States and Union Territories particularly to Andhra Pradesh for National Cadet Corps;

(b) whether Government have started new schemes/programmes to upgrade the skills of NCC cadets in view of the development in recent years in arms and warfare technics to improve defence preparedness of the nation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the details of such programmes proposed to be introduced by Government for NCC cadets, especially in the field of defence related information technology?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) A statement showing details of funds released to Directorates of NCC concerned with various States and Union Territories including Andhra Pradesh for National Cadet Corps is given in the enclosed

Statement. (*See* below). Apart from this amount, State Governments also incur expenditure on Camps for which Central Government reimburses 50% of the expenditure. Regarding Andhra Pradesh, Rs. 214.45 lakhs is to be reimbursed by the Central Government against which State Government has raised a debit of Rs. 40.37 lakhs during the year 2002-2003.

(b) The training presently being imparted to NCC cadets meets the aims of NCC Training in warfare techniques to improve the defence preparedness of the nation falls beyond the scope of training to be imparted to the NCC cadets.

(c) Improvement is a continuous process. To make NCC training more effective, adventure activities like mountaineering, competition rifle shooting, horse riding, para-sailing, white water rafting, microlite aircraft flying and scuba diving have been extended to a large number of cadets.

(d) Question does not arise in view of (b) and (c) above.

Statement

Details of funds allotted to Directorates of NCC in various States and Union Territories during the year 2003-04

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of Directorates	Allotment on office contingency	Allotment on information technology	Allotment on Civil transport
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	200000	200000	60000
2.	Bihar & Jharkhand	200000	150000	20000
3.	Delhi	250000	150000	26000
4.	Gujarat	225000	140000	40000
5.	J&K	200000	120000	490000
6.	Karnataka & Goa	300000	190000	110000
7.	Kerala & Lakshadweep	300000	160000	75000
8.	Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh	200000	180000	20000

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Maharashtra	340000	200000	90000
10.	North Eastern Region	200000	160000	20000
11.	Orissa	230000	140000	30000
12.	Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh & Himachal Pradesh	300000	160000	339000
13.	Rajasthan	280000	150000	20000
14.	Tamil Nadu	300000	160000	339000
15.	Uttar Pradesh & Uttaranchal	400000	200000	86000
16.	West Bengal & Sikkim	240000	180000	40000
	TOTAL	4165000	2660000	1506000

Bagga Committee Report

1057. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bagga Committee set up by Government for Assured Career Progression, for army officers and to examine a proposal for restructuring of officers cadre in the Army has submitted its Report to the Government;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made-therein; and

(c) the time by which this report is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) A Committee was set up under the Chairmanship of the Special Secretary, Ministry of Defence on 16th July, 2001 to exmine Army Headquarters proposal for the re-structuring of the officers' cadre of the Army. The Committee identified two inter-related issues at the core of the structural imbalances referred to by the Army Headquarters *i.e.* high age profile and cadre stagnation. In order to achieve the objective of bringing down the age profile and to improve the promotional prospects, certain short term and long term measures have been recommended by the Committee. The short term measures include additional deputational vacancies and lateral absorption, tenures outside the Army, exit through voluntary severance scheme and creation of additional appointments.